

To his brother, two nieces and a nephew, all of whom survive him, we pray that God will deliver you from the pain that his passing has visited on you.

To those he was honored to serve as a proud representative of District K: all of us in public life are inspired by his example and his fortitude and while we know he is looking down on us, we can only seek to honor his time on Earth by emulating his service.

In a time of wanting leadership, let those of us still on this Earth be inspired by Larry Green's example and his service and strive to be worthy of his legacy.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of the beloved Larry Green, who as much as anyone reflected the heartbeat of Houston.

JORDAN CROSS

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2018*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jordan Cross for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Jordan Cross is a student at Arvada West High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jordan Cross is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jordan Cross for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

VIRGINIA KINCH

### HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2018*

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the generosity of Virginia Kinch and her family in Longmont, Colorado.

Last year during the holiday season, Virginia and her daughters were preparing to deliver Thanksgiving meals to the homeless. They were shocked to hear about a family living in a broken down school bus behind a truck stop, so they went to deliver food to them. They discovered that this struggling family had three young daughters—a 5 year old, a 14-month old, and a 4-week old. After providing the family with a hot meal, Virginia wanted to do more to help. Fortunately, the Kinch's had just completed renovations on a house in Greeley that they planned to rent out or sell. Instead, Virginia went above and beyond and decided to invite the struggling family to move into that home rent-free.

The kindness and selflessness displayed by the Kinch family is truly remarkable. They fully

embody the Christmas spirit of giving, and are an inspiration to us all. For that, I am pleased to honor and recognize their outstanding act of kindness.

### RECOGNIZING CHRISTIAN OAKES FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY HUMANITARIAN AND RELIEF EFFORTS TO HURRICANE VICTIMS

### HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2018*

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Christian Oakes of Walton County, for his success and remarkable relief efforts to reach those devastated by hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria.

Weathering through the storm to reach those previously deemed "unreachable," Christian Oakes defied all odds. His leadership and persistence represent what Northwest Florida is all about—helping those in times of need.

Christian and Cass Oakes were married on August 21, 2017. Four days later, they exchanged their honeymoon for a rescue mission. Without a second thought, they loaded up donated supplies that Christian miraculously accumulated by reaching out to business partners and clients, and headed to help Harvey victims in Texas.

Mr. Oakes' relentless spirit in helping the people of Texas is a spirit that I hope everyone can look to and admire. He proved nothing would stop him from doing everything he could to help, when he offered the very shoes off his feet. He traveled from truck to foot to boat and finally had to be airlifted by a Blackhawk—which he thought was pretty cool. Christian extended his hand to people he had never met before. He simply wanted to help.

When Hurricane Irma hit south Florida, Christian and Cass immediately began planning and executing. Using only their Excursion and U-Haul trailer, they delivered over 5,000 cubic feet of supplies in Collier County, Florida alone. Christian was so incredibly dedicated to this mission, he passed up an opportunity to meet the President so he could immediately begin preparation for the next relief effort.

Following the aftermath of Maria in Puerto Rico, Mr. Oakes' rose to overcome many challenges. One of those being the need to administer vaccines to those affected by the flu. After running into some issues, he contacted my office for assistance and throughout the night, together, through many phone calls and emails, we were able to successfully get those vaccines to the proper destination in time for most to be administered.

I am very proud of Christian, his wife Cass and their incredible team for the phenomenal aid for victims in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. This spirit of duty to help others during times of disaster should inspire and be emulated by every American.

Cass Oakes summed up their mission statement well as she stated, "I never want to buy anything for myself again, I just want to help others. Everything you work so hard for in life can just be taken away in an instance."

Christian and Cass Oakes continue to give of themselves on a daily basis to assist those in need. I look forward to partnering with them

in the future and I am honored to be their Congressman.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Christian and Cass Oakes for their extraordinary humanitarian and relief efforts across our state of Florida and around the United States of America.

RUBY EAMES

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2018*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ruby Eames for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ruby Eames is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ruby Eames is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ruby Eames for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

REMEMBERING DANN SPEAR

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 13, 2018*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Dann Spear, a 40-year resident of Yuba County, who passed away unexpectedly on February 22, 2018.

Dann was born to William C. "Doc" and Margie Spear in Ventura, California in 1954. He grew up around horses and livestock, and worked at the family business at the Ojai Valley Inn Riding Stables and Matalija Ranch in his youth. He graduated from Nordhoff High School in 1972, and while attending Cal Poly S.L.O., he competed in college rodeo and went on to compete successfully in professional rodeo in the team roping event.

He married the love of his life, Roberta Eskew Spear, in 1974. After attending Cal Poly, they moved back to Ojai, where Dann began working in the construction industry. After two years, they realized their dream of owning a small ranch and moved to Marysville, California, where Dann continued to compete in professional rodeo and continued his construction career. Dann worked in the Public Works Department of Sutter County for 30 years, where he loved helping the people of Sutter County. Dann also had a strong faith and love for the Lord in a quiet way and always treated people like family.

Dann and Roberta had two sons, Carson and Brandon. They were involved in 4-H, little league, and high school rodeo, and they never